



DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1969.



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DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1970 - 1971
(current year)

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

J. WYTHES, ESQ., J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

F. GRIFFIN, ESQ.

Members of the Public Health Committee

Chairman - Mr. C. D. Cooper
Vice-Chairman - Mr. S. Wheelton, C.C.

Messrs. B. H. Bomford, J. E. Harrison, J. E. Hartwright,
S. E. Powick, C. Richardson, J. B. Stone, J. Williamson,
and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council(Ex Officio)

Public Health Officers of the Council

L. Spencer Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

R. F. Fry, M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.C., M.A.P.H.I.,
Engineer & Surveyor, Chief Public Health Inspector.

D. G. Carter, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Deputy Engineer & Surveyor,
Public Health Inspector.

K. J. Ramsden, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health
Inspector.

M. Johns, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector.

Rural District Council Offices,
31 Ombersley Street,
DROITWICH.

Tel: Droitwich 2288.

August 1970.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The health of the District remains satisfactory and most of the Statistics in sections (A), (B), and (F) of the report do not require comment. In fact the notifications of infectious disease seem to have hit an 'all-time low' and the 30 cases of measles shown could have been reduced further if measles vaccine had been used more extensively.

The problems as I see them remain in the field of Environmental Health (sections C, D and E).

Firstly I would like to congratulate the Council on the completion of its third block of Old People's accommodation at "The Cedars", Fernhill Heath. The building was officially opened by the Chairman of the Council, Mr. J. R. Pointer, B.A., on 14th March 1970. A fourth block is to be built at Hartlebury eventually and then I think the District will be well served to cater for the needs of the elderly for some years to come.

Unfortunately the needs of large families have not been catered for, statutory overcrowding does exist (see page 20) and I must ask the Council to reconsider this matter. Four or five bedroomed houses are very necessary somewhere in the district.

Secondly, due to circumstances largely outside the control of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Refuse Disposal problems undoubtedly existed during the year. Now that a new tipping site has been acquired at Hanbury Wharf it is hoped that every priority will be given to this matter and a high standard achieved.

Thirdly, it is evident that there has been a go slow on Sewerage and Sewage disposal for two to three years now, as although there have been extensions to existing works, no new works have been commenced and a long list has been drawn up.

Finally, although a Caravan Survey has been completed and the locality for a Council site determined, little progress has been made. The object of the exercise is not to invite further caravans into the district, but to accommodate existing unauthorised vans and further careful thought will have to be given to how this is to be achieved.

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My sincere thanks are due to the members of the Public Health department for their help and co-operation during the year.

I remain Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient servant,

L. SPENCER STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres 50,432

Number of Houses according to Rate Book (31st March 1969) 5,753

Rateable Value at 31st March 1969 £573,752

Registrar General's estimate of resident population 15,870

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	108	99	207
Illegitimate	9	11	20
Total			<u>227</u>

Illegitimate live births as percentage of total live births 9%

Standardised birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population 15.0

Death rate for England and Wales 16.3

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births 9.

Still birth rate for England and Wales 13

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
From all causes	88	74	162

Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated population 10.4

Death rate for England and Wales 11.9

Deaths of Infants under one year of age -

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 26

Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales 18

Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age -

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	-	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 22

" " " for England and Wales 12

Perinatal Mortality rate per 1,000 total births 26

" " " for England and Wales 23

Maternal Deaths (including abortion) Nil

" Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1969

(according to B. Classification - 50 main causes)

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasms, Oesophagus	1	-
B19(3)	" " Stomach	2	3
B19(4)	" " Intestine	1	-
B19(6)	" " Lung, Bronchus	9	2
B19(7)	" " Breast	-	3
B19(8)	" " Uterus	-	2
B19(9)	" " Prostate	4	-
B19(11)	" " Other	1	8
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. diseases	-	1
B23	Anaemias	1	-
B46(4)	Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.,	-	-
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	3	2
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	21	12
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	6	7
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	7	7
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	4
B32	Pneumonia	3	2
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	3
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	2
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
B46(8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	2
B42	Congenital anomalies	1	1
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.,	1	-
B44	Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-
B45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	2	4
B547	Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1
B548	All other accidents	1	2
B550	All other external causes	1	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		88	74

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

A. County Health Services

The following services are provided by the County Council in accordance with Part II of the National Health Service Act 1946 -

Care of Mothers and Young Children (Section 2)

The District is served by the following Clinics -

Infant Welfare Centres

- Norbury House, Friar Street, Droitwich - open every Tuesday and Friday
at 2 p.m.
- Memorial Hall, Ombersley - open on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in the month
at 2 p.m.
- Parish Hall, Hanbury - open on the 3rd Thursday in the month
at 2.30 p.m.
- Village Hall, Crowle - open on the 4th Wednesday in the month
at 2.30 p.m.
- Memorial Hall, Fernhill - open on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in the month
Heath - at 2 p.m.
- Village Hall, Wychbold - open on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month
at 2.30 p.m.
- Parish Hall, Hartlebury - open on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month
at 2.30 p.m.

National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice and other baby foods may be obtained at these centres. A doctor is usually in attendance; a fully qualified Health Visitor is always present.

Antenatal Clinics

It is now County policy that antenatal cases should be cared for as far as possible by their own doctor. Clinics are available however, at which expectant mothers are encouraged to attend regularly in order to meet the midwife, receive health education and carry out antenatal exercises under the direction of a physiotherapist.

- Norbury House, Friar Street, Droitwich - open 2nd and 4th Thursdays in
the month at 2 p.m.
- Recreation Road, Bromsgrove - open every Monday at 2 p.m.
- Coventry Street, Kidderminster - open every Monday at 2 p.m.

Midwifery (Section 23)

The services of a County midwife are available without charge to care for mothers during pregnancy, confinement and for a period of ten days afterwards. She should be booked as early as possible in order to receive adequate instruction for the confinement. Visits are paid to the home and examinations carried out monthly in co-operation with the doctor, who will arrange hospital consultations if necessary. Free dental treatment is available during this period and may be arranged through the County Dental Officer.

Health Visiting and Home Nursing (Sections 24 and 25)

After the first ten days the Health Visitor takes over responsibility for the care of the baby from the midwife. She is a trained nurse who has received additional instruction in child care, maintenance of health and prevention of disease, and is able to offer guidance to the mother until the child goes to school. Particular attention is paid to premature babies and those placed for adoption or with foster parents. The Health Visitor also acts as school nurse and being an experienced medico-social worker is able to give advice to the adult members of the family on personal problems related to physical or mental ill-health.

The District Nurse is available to act on the instructions of the general practitioner or hospital and when a patient is discharged to make arrangements for domiciliary care. She carries out nursing procedures and may be called upon in an emergency. In most instances the District Nurse is also the Midwife and acts as Health Visitor but in urban areas it is sometimes more convenient to split their duties.

Four Health Visitors work from the Royal George Buildings, Droitwich Tel. No. Droitwich 3328 covering the following parts of the District -

Miss M. Hill	-	Hadzor, Impney and Sharnal Green.
Miss B. Britton	-	Bevere, Claines, Danes Green, Fernhill Heath, Hawford, Hindlip, Impney (Chateau), Ladywood, Martin Hussingtree, Newlands, Porters Mill, Sale Green, Salwarpe, Smite, Warndon (rural).
Miss U. Eldridge	-	Brownheath, Cutnall Green, Dodderhill, Egg Hill, Elmley Lovett, Hampton Lovett, Jackmans Hill, Rashwood, Sneads Green, Westwood.
Miss T. Mann	-	Crowle, Crutch, Elmbridge, Newtown, Tibberton, Trotshill, Wychbold.

Also the following nurses operate from their homes where they may be contacted unless off-duty when the telephone number of the relief nurse is left at the door. This is particularly important for obstetric emergencies.-

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Miss C. Mills, DN/M/HV - 14 Appletree Walk, Ombersley.
Tel: No: Ombersley 341
Miss E. Williams, DN/M/HV. - Nurses House, Droitwich Road, Hanbury
Tel: No: Hanbury 209
Miss A. Roberts, DN/M/HV. - 27 Waresley Court Road, Hartlebury
Tel: No: Hartlebury 200
Miss M. Buck, DN/M/HV - The Bungalow, Briar Hill, Chaddesley Corbett,
Tel: No: Chaddesley Corbett 202
Mrs. E. Cracklow, DN/M. - "Kooternay", Froxmere Road, Crowle
Tel: No: Upton Snodsbury 497.

Vaccination and Immunisation (Section 26)

Vaccination against Smallpox and Poliomyelitis and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus are carried out free of charge at any of the County Clinics or by the patient's own doctor.

The following inoculations were completed during 1969 -
(figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

1. Smallpox Vaccination

Number of persons who received primary vaccination	153	(209)
" " " who were re-vaccinated	29	(11)

2. Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Number of children who received a full course	162	(N.A.)
" " " " a reinforcing dose . . .	390	(N.A.)

3. Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	137	(294)
" " " " a reinforcing dose . . .	312	(481)

4. Tetanus Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	149	(294)
" " " " a reinforcing dose . . .	324	(489)

5. Whooping Cough Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	82	(246)
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6. Measles Vaccination

Number of children who received a Primary dose .. .	158	(183)
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Ambulance Service (Section 27)

Cases of illness or sudden and urgent illness are responded to irrespective of the source of the call. All that is necessary is to ask the telephone operator for Ambulance after dialling 999. The Service is under radio control from Worcester and ambulance stations are strategically situated throughout the Country.

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Requests for hospital cars should be made to the County Ambulance Officer, who will decide whether this form of transport is suitable. Patients suffering from infectious diseases are conveyed to hospital in special ambulances.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care (Section 28)

Convalescent care is provided for children and adults not requiring treatment. This type of recuperative holiday is frequently recommended and persons are required to contribute according to their means. Medical comforts depots are maintained in various parts of the County by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society. Requests for nursing equipment, such as bedpans, pulleys, hoists, etc., should be made to the District Nurse or County Health Department.

Persons suffering from Tuberculosis may be assisted in many ways. Tuberculosis Health Visitors work from the Chest Clinic and will assist patients to make the best use of services available. Occupational therapy is available for patients suffering from lengthy illnesses or who are undergoing prolonged convalescence.

A chiropody scheme is now in operation for aged and handicapped persons, and is being extended. A Health Education Officer has also been appointed to provide instruction on health matters in an attempt to reduce illness. This is particularly important in relation to accidents in the home, food hygiene and cancer.

Domestic Help (Section 29)

The Home Help Service has recently been reorganised by the County Council on an area basis. Enquiries relating to the Rural District should be addressed to - Mrs. A. Friend, Area Organiser, Royal George Buildings, Hanbury Street, Droitwich. The service provides domestic help for the aged, in sickness and for maternity cases during confinement.

Mental Health (Section 51)

The Mental Health Service has been expanded to deal with the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1959. The Act abolishes the term mental deficiency and introduced subnormality, severe subnormality, mental illness and psychopathic disorder. Mental Welfare Officers have been appointed who act in conjunction with approved medical officers and hospital services. Statutory duties of the County Council include -

- (a) The provision of residential accommodation.
- (b) The provision of training or occupation centres (available at Stourport, Bromsgrove and Lower Wick).
- (c) The exercise of functions relating to persons placed under guardianship.
- (d) The provision of ancillary services for persons suffering from mental disorder.

Welfare Services (National Assistance Act 1948)

The Welfare Services are administered by the Welfare Section of the Health Department under the direction of the County Welfare Officer. The following facilities are available -

- (a) Residential accommodation for the elderly who are unable to look after themselves in their own homes.
- (b) Temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need.
- (c) Special services for blind persons.
- (d) Special services for deaf and dumb persons.
- (e) Special assistance for other handicapped persons.

School Health Service (Education Act 1944)

The County Medical Officer is also Principal School Medical Officer. School Medical Officers visit all Primary and Secondary schools in the district at regular intervals.

Every school child receives three medical examinations during his or her school life, but children in whom abnormalities are detected are seen frequently. Special visual acuity and colour tests are given at 7 - 8 years of age, children in need of attention being referred to the School Oculist.

Routine testing of hearing is now carried out using a pure-tone audiometer and children with defective hearing are referred to special clinics for further investigation.

The services of a Speech Therapist are available and orthopaedic defects are kept under supervision by the Orthopaedic Sister. Children with behaviour disorders or other problems are seen at the Child Guidance Clinic, Love's Grove, Castle Street, Worcester.

School Dental Service

The Dental Health of all children in maintained schools is supervised at regular intervals, inspections being carried out on the premises. Subsequently treatment is carried out at the nearest fixed clinic, or in one of the mobile clinics now available. Clinics are available at Bromsgrove, Stourport and Kidderminster.

County Analyst

The County Analyst is available to examine public water supplies, sewage effluent, milk, food and drug samples. The arrangements for the routine sampling of all milk supplies is in the hands of the County Public Health Inspector.

B. Hospital Services

These services are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

1. General hospitals with casualty departments are situated at Worcester, Bromsgrove and Kidderminster.

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2. Maternity beds are available at Worcester, Bromsgrove and Stourport.
3. Infectious diseases are usually admitted to Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester where beds are also available for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Special cases may, however, be sent to Little Bromwich Hospital, Birmingham.
4. The elderly and chronic sick are accommodated at Shrub Hill, Worcester, Bromsgrove or Blakebrook, Kidderminster.
5. Psychiatric Hospitals for mental disorders are available at Powick, Barnsley Hall and Lea Hospital, Bromsgrove.
6. St. John's Hospital and Highfield Hospital, Droitwich are National hospitals for the treatment of rheumatic diseases. Spa treatment is available privately at the Brine Baths.
7. A thoracic surgery unit has been established at Hill Top Hospital Bromsgrove, dealing mainly with congenital heart lesions in children.
8. Laboratories are available in all General Hospitals, but at Worcester Royal Infirmary a branch of the Public Health Laboratory Service has been established. This organisation, with reference laboratories in London and elsewhere, is designed to assist local authorities in their investigations into outbreaks of communicable disease.
9. Venereal Diseases
Venereal diseases are diagnosed and treated at a special out-patient department (adjacent to the Chest Clinic at the Worcester Royal Infirmary). Sessions are held from 5 - 7 p.m. on Mondays (both sexes - separate departments) on Thursday 2 - 4 p.m. (women) and Fridays 2 - 4 p.m. (men).

C. General Medical Services

Persons arriving in the district and wishing to register with a general practitioner may obtain a list of names and addresses of all the doctors available, at any post office.

The services of dentists, opticians and pharmacists practicing in the district come under the control of the Worcestershire Executive Council, 29 Foregate Street, Worcester to whom enquiries should be made.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supplies

The East Worcestershire Waterworks Company are the statutory water undertakers for the greater part of Droitwich Rural District. Twenty out of twenty-two parishes are now supplied by them. The remaining two parishes are supplied as follows :-

(1) Warndon - by The South West Worcestershire Water Board.

(2) Hartlebury - by The North West Worcestershire Water Board.

Area	Supplied by	No. of Houses on Mains	Estimated Population	Total (mid.68) Population
20 Parishes	E.W.W.Co.	3,186	11,122	13,245
Hartlebury	N.W.W.Board	580	1,885	2,370
Warndon	S.W.W.Board	10	35	65
Totals		3776	13,042	15,680

This indicates that approximately 83% of the population are supplied with Mains Water. The remainder rely upon shallow wells, apart from a few farms where boreholes have been sunk for agricultural purposes. 13 out of a total of 26 samples taken from wells during 1969 were reported as unfit for drinking and appropriate steps taken to protect the consumer. One property was connected to the mains as a result. In addition a quantity of Jeyes fluid was spilt down a well putting it out of action for some months.

Main Boreholes

Five bacteriological results are submitted as follows taken at source from their supplies and one from Hartlebury Parish in relation to the North West Worcestershire supply :-

WATER AS DELIVERED INTO SERVICE ON 17TH NOVEMBER 1969

Marked	Number of colonies growing on Agar 2 days at 37° C. 3 days at 22°C.		Probable Number of Coliform Bacilli	Probable Number of Faecal Coli	Remarks
<u>Per</u> No.2 Borehole Burcot P/Stn.	<u>1 ml.</u> 4	<u>1 ml.</u> 0	<u>100 ml.</u> Nil	<u>100 ml.</u> Nil	satisfactory
Nos. 1,2 & 3 Boreholes Sugarbrook P/Station	2	0	Nil	Nil	"
No. 1 Borehole Washingstocks P/Station	18	58	Nil	Nil	"
No.2 Borehole Wildmoor P/Station	4	89	Nil	Nil	"
Hartlebury Charlton Booster Stn.	Not tested	Not tested	Nil	Nil	"

2. Sewerage & Sewage Disposal

No Sewerage or Sewage Disposal schemes were carried out during 1969 although two villages were under active consideration. Both of these schemes were reported in detail in my 1968 report.

The extensions to the Crowle Sewage Works have not yet been submitted to the Ministry for approval. Consideration has been given to the installation of a 3 phase supply of Electricity and as this is being included within the contract figure revised estimates had to be prepared.

For the Cutnall Green scheme, Ministry approval was obtained towards the end of 1969 and work commenced mid-1970.

3. Refuse Collection and Disposal

A weekly system of Refuse Collection operates in all built-up areas, whereas a fortnightly collection service is operated in the more rural parts of the District.

The Council agreed to make arrangements to deal with the refuse from the Borough of Droitwich in 1966 and this was being taken to the Briar Coppice tip at Westwood.

Unfortunately this land was also required for overspill development and the Briar Coppice tip had to be closed. As a temporary measure land at Jacobs Ladder, Claines was approved by the County Council, but certain difficulties were encountered and it was soon necessary to use an extra piece of land. Site access was difficult, wet weather made the site very muddy and loose paper produced difficulties. Fortunately the Chaseside Super Loadmaster did some good work.

A permanent site is being sought at the Hanbury Wharf Brickworks and it is imperative that tipping should be commenced there as soon as possible.

4. Public Health Inspections

The following routine inspections were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during 1969 :-

A. Housing Act 1957

Section 9 (Repairs)	90
Section 16 (Unfit Premises)	85
Section 42 (Clearance area)	-
Section 76 (Overcrowding)	4
	<u>179</u> (176)

B. Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961

Nuisances from Premises	38
" " Animals	7
" " Refuse	39
" " Dust, Effluvia	62
" " Workplaces	-
" " Noise	4
	<u>150</u> (157)

C. Drainage Problems (Sewage and Water)

Obstructions	42
Cesspools and Septic Tank	48
Ditches	84
Drainage Tests	16
Inspection of Wells and Water Samples	54
Pollution of Rivers, etc.,	-
	<u>244</u> (256)

D. Food and Drugs Act 1955

Slaughterhouse	157
Bakehouses	13
Shops	14
Cafes	12
Vans	15
Other Food Premises	14
Ice Cream and other Food Samples	15
	<u>240</u> (323)

E. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Inspections	8
	<u>8</u> (16)

F. Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

Residential Sites	60
Holiday Sites	15
Camping Sites, etc.,	2
Unauthorised Caravans	181
	<u>258</u> (254)

G. Other Inspections 55 (51)

GRAND TOTAL 1,134 (1,233)

(N.B. figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

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In addition for the 420 places for Caravans on established sites

5. Rodent Control - 1969

Regular inspections of dwelling houses and business premises are carried out throughout the district. Quite a number of agricultural contracts are held and treatment under such agreements form no small proportion of the work.

The analysis of work carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 is as follows :-

<u>Properties other than sewers</u>	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in District	5,122	753
2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	265	21
b) Number infested by (1) Rats	79	20
(2) Mice	11	1
3. a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	810	121
b) Number infested by (1) Rats	82	25
(2) Mice	11	2
<u>Sewers</u>		
4. Number of Sewers infested by Rats during the year -	Nil	

6. Factory Inspections

The Factory Act 1961 places duties on the local authority in relation to sanitary provisions in all factories and to environmental and hygiene provisions in those factories not using mechanical power.

There is also a duty to discover cases where Outwork has been placed following which information is obtained from the factory concerned.

Part I of the Act

(1) Inspection for purposes of provision as to health -

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
a) Factories in which Secs.1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	9	-	-
c) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (including out- workers premises)	30	11	-	-
TOTAL	63	20	-	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found NIL.

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork - Nil Return.

S E C T I O N D

HOUSING

1. Housing Programme

(a) Council Houses

No. of new dwellings completed by the 31st December 1969 -

"The Cedars", Fernhill Heath (elderly persons accommodation)

Units 1 Person	10
2 Person	10
Warden's Flat	<u>1</u>
Total	21

(b) Private Houses

i) No. of Private Dwellings completed during 1969	93
ii) " " " " under construction at 31st Dec. 1969	71

(c) Improvements and Conversions to private houses during 1969 - (figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

i) Discretionary Grants

Applications received	13	(9)
" approved	10	(8)
No. of dwellings involved	10	(8)
Applications withdrawn or refused	3	(1)
Total amount of grant-aided work	£14,390	(£10,789)
Amount of grants approved	£ 5,679	(£ 3,153)
Average grant per dwelling	£ 567	(£ 394)
Amount of grant paid during year	£ 4,053	(£ 7,315)

ii) Standard Grants

Applications received and approved	17	(31)
Maximum grants payable	£3,878	(£6,347)
Amount of grants paid during year	£5,711	(£4,511)

2. Overcrowding (Part IV Housing Act 1957)

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings statutorily overcrowded at
31st December 1969 5
- (ii) " " families dwelling therein 7
- (iii) " " persons dwelling therein 43
- (b) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. Nil
- (ii) " " persons concerned in such cases Nil
- (iii) " " houses again overcrowded after previously so
relieved Nil
- (c) Number of new cases of Overcrowding reported during the year .. 0

3. Slum Clearance

Demolition	Slum Clearance Position at 31st December 1969										Total
	Up to 1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	
1) Notices of Time & Place served	132	10	18	8	3	34	27	5	1	2	220
2) Demolition Orders served	107	6	7	6	7	29	6	3	1	-	172
3) Undertakings accepted from owners	25	-	4	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	34
4) Deferred or awaiting decision	-	1	5	2	1	1	1	1	-	2	14
5) Demolished or closed	33	12	7	4	13	8	-	1	2	2	82
6) Clearance Areas (cleared)	7	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	27

4. Caravans

A caravan survey was carried out during 1968 and the Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector reported to a joint Committee of Planning and Health members early in 1969.

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In addition to the 420 places for Caravans on established sites which had planning permission and are shown on the table below, there were 293 unauthorised vans discovered scattered throughout the district. It must be admitted that the Clarelands Holiday site has not been developed, but at the same time the Chateau Impney site has not been cleared despite the expiration of Planning Permission in March 1968. Furthermore, quite a number of other vans have come to light since the survey. It is probable that there were approximately 660 caravans in the district at 31st Dec. 1969.

Of the 293 caravans dealt with in the survey, 125 were found to be stored, 130 used as full-time residences and only 20 for holiday purposes.

Excluding a number considered to have an "Established Planning Use", there were 118 unauthorised vans against which enforcement action could be taken. In the first instance it was decided to write to all the site owners and caravan occupiers in this category, requesting them to submit Planning Applications. Failure to do so would result in action being taken by the Council.

The principle of establishing a Council-owned caravan site has been agreed and a suitable site is being sought at Hampton Lovett. Also to be in line with the Government policy, an attempt is being made to find more permanent accommodation for gypsies in collaboration with the farmers on whose land they reside.

A. Permanent Residential Sites

	<u>Permitted No. of Vans</u>	
1. Sunnyside, Claines - just outside the Worcester City Boundary on main A38 road	12	
2. "Eagle & Sun", Hanbury Wharf - approx. 1 mile east of Droitwich on Stratford road	20	
3. Dunhampton- to rear of Roberts Garage, on main A449 road to Kidderminster	24	
4. "Fruiterer's Arms", Ombersley - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of main A449 road to Uphampton	20	
	—	
Total	= <u>76</u>	76

/cont'd.....

B/F

76

B. Holiday Sites

Permitted
No. of Vans

1. "Fruiterer's Arms", Ombersley (as previously) 30
2. Wharf Hotel, Holt Fleet - on left side of
main road approaching bridge over river Severn
from Ombersley 44
3. Brick's Farm, Holt Fleet - on right side of main
road approaching bridge over river Severn 107
4. Winnall Farm, Winnall, Nr. Stourport - east
bank of river Severn, 2 miles south of
Stourport 48
5. Mutton Hall, Boreley - east bank of river
Severn opposite the Lenchford Hotel 10
6. Mill House, Hawford - on main A449 road, 4 miles
north of Worcester 15
7. "Clarelands", Tilton, Nr. Stourport (not yet
developed 90

Total = 344

344

GRAND TOTAL

=

420

SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Premises

The following categories of Food Premises are found in the Rural District :-

Butchers Shops	1
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	7
Food Shops	45
Food Factory	1
Clubs, Hotels and Licenced Premises .	<u>52</u>
Total =	<u>109</u>

Inspections carried out are shown on page 16 and have decreased somewhat over the previous year. However the standard of hygiene achieved throughout the district is considered to be satisfactory. Hand-basins and sinks provided for the washing of food and equipment are as follows :-

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

(i)	number of premises	109
(ii)	" " " fitted to comply with Regulation 16	89
(iii)	" " " to which Regulation 19 applies ,	108
(iv)	" " " fitted to comply with Regulation 19	106

2. Meat Inspection

There is one licenced Slaughterhouse in the district at Ombersley, the Public Health Inspectors have a rota for inspection and 100% of carcasses are always inspected. 1,852 animals were inspected during 1969 compared with 1,848 the previous year and very little disease was found.

Further details are shown on page 24.

3. Poultry Inspection

This has hardly been feasible until recently due to shortage of staff, but an attempt is now being made to produce the figures required by the Ministry -

/cont'd.....

/cont'd.....

(i)	Number of poultry processing premises within the district ..	8
(ii)	" " visits to these premises	8
(iii)	Total number of birds processed during the year	N.A.
(iv)	Types of birds processed - turkeys	-
	broilers	-
	ducks	-
	cockerels	-
(v)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption.	N.A.
(vi)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit	N.A.

4. Milk & Dairies & Ice-cream

The Milk and Dairies Regulations are mainly administered by the County Public Health Inspector. There are two pasteurisation plants in the District and the following samples of milk were taken from a variety of sources during 1969 -

Pasteurised milk	43 (19)
Sterilized milk	1 (0)
Raw (Tuberculin Tested Milk . . .	7 (8)
Total	<u>51</u> (27)

figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

Three samples failed the methylene blue test and appropriate action was taken. In relation to Brucella Abortus infection, no positive samples were found and no action was necessary during the year.

There are fifty-five premises registered for the sale of pre-packed Ice-Cream, all being food premises as listed in Section E.1. and inspected during routine work. A number of samples are taken from time to time, particularly if refrigeration plant has broken down.

5. Food and Drugs

Worcestershire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for the district. Food and Drugs (Weights and Measures) Inspectors operate from Fernhill Heath, submitting samples to the County Analyst who reports his findings quarterly to the County Health Committee.

6. Meat Inspection - 1969

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	144	9	1252	447
Number inspected	144	9	1252	447
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	Nil	17	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.5%	Nil	1.3%	5.3%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	4%
Cysticercosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

S E C T I O N F

Incidence of Infectious Disease

The following table shows the incidence of Infectious Disease in relation to Age in the Rural District during 1969.

Disease	Under five yrs.	5 - 15 yrs.	16 - 25 yrs.	Adult	Total
1. Scarlet Fever	-	3	-	-	3
2. Measles	9	21	-	-	30
3. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-
4. Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-
5. Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
7. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
8. Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-
9. Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-
10. Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis 1969

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register are as follows-

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Cases on the Register at 1st January 1969	11	7	-	-
Additions - New Cases	-	1	-	1
Additions - Transfers in	2	-	-	-
Deductions (recovered, died or left district)	1	2	-	-
Cases on the Register at 31st December 1969	12	6	-	1

B.C.G. Vaccination

The County Council operate a scheme for the preventive inoculation of all children leaving school (at 12 - 13 years old). This is a valuable protective measure against Tuberculosis and is doing much to reduce the number of cases on the Register.

After-Care Committee for South Worcestershire.

Two meetings of this Committee were held at the Shire Hall during the year. Not a great deal of work has been done as the number of cases requiring assistance has been falling annually. Nevertheless, the Tuberculosis Health Visitors do find cases whose needs are outside the scope of the statutory bodies and then turn to the Committee, whose help is greatly appreciated.

THE END.

